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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM 60 Minutes

STATION WDVM-TV
CBS Network

DATE March 3, 1985 7:00 P.M. CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT The Murder of Henry Liu

DIANE SAWYER: Five months ago there was a murder in a quiet suburb of San Francisco, a murder that would send shock waves halfway around the world, from Washington to Taiwan. The murdered man was a 51-year-old American of Chinese descent named Henry Liu, a journalist, a constant critic of the government on Taiwan, the author of a critical biography of its President. But there are signs that Henry Liu was also a man playing with fire.

LT. TOM REESE: The date was October the 15th, 1984. The murder occurred sometime 9:15, we figure, 9:10, 9:15 in the morning.

SAWYER: Lieutenant Tom Reese (?) is Chief of Detectives in Daly City, California, the middle-class suburb south of San Francisco where Henry Liu lived on this quiet cul-de-sac overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

As Henry Liu walked to his garage to load some boxes into his car, the gunmen were lying in wait. There was a struggle. They opened fire. Henry Liu was shot at close range three times, twice in the abdomen, once between the eyes.

When Lieutenant Reese and his detectives arrived at the scene, there was little to go on. But when they started asking questions, the answers brought a surprise.

LT. REESE: Early on in the investigation people were telling us that he was killed for his writings, it was a politically motivated killing.

SAWYER: A political killing in Daly City? At this